

## **BOARD OF SUPERVISORS**

Administration Center 25 COUNTY CENTER DRIVE, SUITE 200 - OROVILLE, CALIFORNIA 95965 Telephone: (530) 552-3300 BILL CONNELLY First District

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March 29, 2019

State Water Resources Control Board Attn: E. Joaquin Esquivel, Chair PO Box 100 Sacramento, CA 95812-0100

RE:

Butte County - Water Testing/Technical Support

Dear Mr. Esquivel,

On behalf of the Butte County Board of Supervisors, I am writing to request immediate support be provided in restoring safe drinking water to the communities impacted by the Camp Fire. The Camp Fire is the most devastating wildfire ever to hit California, destroying over 14,000 homes. Along with the homes, the fire also destroyed a tremendous amount of infrastructure, including much of water delivery systems to many of our residents.

We request that the Division of Drinking Water, under the State Water Resource Control Board, provide immediate assistance to residents impacted by the Camp Fire. It is vital that reliable and safe drinking water be restored for the homes and businesses that survived. We ask that the Division of Drinking Water take an immediate leadership role in providing the following assistance:

- Expedited testing results (consider mobile state certified labs to improve turnaround time on testing results) and funded water testing for residents in their homes;
- Expedited and funded water testing for water agencies;
- Technical support to identify the best solutions for supplying safe drinking water;
- Funding for replacement of critical infrastructure and damaged plumbing in homes.

This type of devastation has never been seen before and ensuring safe drinking water for our residents is essential for the recovery of our community. Immediate technical assistance and funding is needed to accomplish this. We ask that this matter be raised to the highest of priorities within the Division of Drinking Water. Should you have any questions regarding our position, please do not hesitate to contact Shari McCracken, Chief Administrative Officer at 530.552.3305.

Sincerely,

Steve Lambert, Chair

**Butte County Board of Supervisors** 

cc: Members, Butte County Board of Supervisors

The Honorable Gavin Newson, Governor, State of California
The Honorable James Gallagher, Member, California State Assembly
The Honorable Brian Dahle, Member, California State Assembly
The Honorable Jim Nielsen, Member, California State Senate
Wade Crowfoot, California Secretary for Natural Resources
Reese Crenshaw, District 21, Division of Drinking Water
Paul Yoder, Shaw/Yoder/Antwih, Inc.
Rural County Representatives of California